



South Florida Water Management District

Governing Board Audit and Finance Committee MEETING MINUTES

September 10, 2008

10:30 AM

District Headquarters - Storch Room
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Members Present:

Eric Buermann

Michael Collins

Charles Dauray

Paul C. Huck Jr.

1. Call meeting to Order - Charles Dauray, Chair

Chair Dauray called the meeting to order at 10:55 am.

Governing Board members Jerry Montgomery, Melissa Meeker, Patrick Rooney, and Shannon Estenoz were in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the August 13, 2008, meeting held in West Palm Beach, Florida

Motion made by Paul Huck, seconded Eric Buermann to approve the April 9, 2008 and August 13, 2008 Audit and Finance Committee meeting minutes. Vote called. Voting yes. Charles Dauray, Paul Huck, Eric Buermann and Michael Collins. Motion passed.

3. Changes to Agenda - Annette Carter, Director, Office of Governing Board and Executive Services

Annette Carter, Director, Office of Governing Board and Executive Services announced there were no changes to the agenda.

4. Update and Discussion of the "River of Grass" Land Acquisition - Thomas W. Olliff, Assistant Executive Director, Executive Office

Ray Palmer, Chief Appraiser, reported on the Appraisal Team, which includes seven appraisal and consulting organizations. Mr. Palmer reported on what will be appraised: sugarcane land, citrus groves, sugar mill and refinery, citrus processing plant, railroads, plus furniture, fixtures and equipment.

Mr. Collins commented on the value of the appraisals and the need for simultaneous closings.

Ms. Estenoz commented on the integration between land and the sugar mill and refinery.

Mr. Dauray asked about the depth value of land.

Mr. Palmer provided information about the depth value of muck.

Robert Banting, MAI, SRA, Anderson & Carr, Inc. reported on the market value process. He also reported on the time constraints and completing the appraisal.

Mr. Collins gave direction to staff and those working on the project to take adequate time in order to get the job done correctly.

Mr. Montgomery stated those working on the project need to have the appropriate amount of time to do their work with a high level of competence to bring the Board back solid information.

Mr. Buermann asked about the stock value of U.S. Sugar.

Mr. Banting provided information on the equity of U.S. Sugar assets.

There was Board discussion on the appraisals of buying and selling components and third-party purchases.

5. Public Comment

Public Comment: Kevin McCarthy, Hendry County Commissioner, commented on the concerns of the Glades community regarding economic impacts and requested land for development and a guarantee for jobs.

Public Comment: Sean Moore, citizen, had concerns about the open deadline for the land purchase and the economic impacts in the Glades/Hendry county area.

Public Comment: Chris Shupe, Banker, Labelle, commented on market uncertainties and economic impacts in the Glades community.

6. Adjournment

Chair Dauray adjourned the meeting at 1:15 pm.

Charles Dauray
Chairman
Audit and Finance Committee

Recorded By:

Cathy Widness
Administrative Assistant Senior
Governing Board and Executive Services
SFWMD